Environment Canada

Environnement Canada

Western and Northern Region

Région de l'Ouest et du Nord

Office of the Secretariat
Committee of Regional Executives

Bureau du Secrétariat
Comité des cadres régionaux

Canada

REGIONAL SCREENING & COORDINATING
COMMITTEE (RSCC)
WESTERN & NORTHERN REGION

1988
REGISTRATION/ACTIVITY REPORT

89-05579/

REGIONAL SCREENING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE (RSCC)
WESTERN & NORTHERN REGION

1988
REGISTRATION/ACTIVITY REPORT

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Environmental Protection
Conservation & Protection
Western & Northern Region
Edmonton, Alberta

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Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

February 21, 1989

1165-36/R39

CORE Members

RE: 1988 RSCC Annual Report

The Regional Screening and Coordinating Committee (RSCC) is pleased to submit to you their 1988 Annual Report.

In 1988, the RSCC dealt with 182 project referrals, 11 of them major projects. Six meetings were held in Edmonton, Winnipeg, Yellowknife, Calgary and Regina. One RSCC field trip was held to the Sunshine Ski Development, in Banff National Park. This trip was held in conjunction with the RSCC Meeting in Calgary.

Guests attending RSCC meetings in 1988 were representatives from INAC, PFRA, FEARO and CPG, Ottawa.

The Province of Alberta regularly sends representatives to meetings held in Edmonton and Calgary, and has been active in exchanging information as required by the Canada-Alberta Agreement on Environmental Assessment.

I hope that CORE will find this 1988 annual report acceptable.

Yours truly,

Nick Tywoniuk.

N. Tywoniuk, Ph.D., P. Eng.
Chairman, RSCC

Encl.

Canada

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PART A

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

ALBERTA

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NW-4441	Bison Diseases, Wood Buffalo National Park, Alberta and N.W.T. (see Northwest Territories Section), (CPS)
NW-4448	Georgetown Developments - Resort - Canmore (CPS)
NW-4450	Suncor Resources Group Inc. - Debottlenecking (EP)
NW-4462	Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc. - Athabasca Pulp Mill (EP)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4336; Banff Townsite Expansion; DOE (Parks); Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The proposal calls for expansion of commercial and/or residential facilities outside the present boundary of Banff townsite in Banff National Park. Present Parks Canada policy prohibits commercial/recreational development outside of Banff townsite. However, there is considerable pressure for space within the townsite, resulting in pressure for expansion outside the present town limits.

KEY ISSUES:

Expansion of the townsite may further destroy the limited montane zone which provides essential habitat for overwintering large mammals and other wildlife. Attention is being focused on the area between the town and the traffic circle, where re-development of the land occupied by the old hotels and residences is possible. This area is important for overwintering animals and is already being encroached upon by the widening of the Trans-Canada Highway.

STATUS:

An Initial Environmental Evaluation (IEE) was prepared by Parks Canada and subsequently reviewed by the RSCC. Parks Canada is currently preparing a final IEE, based on comments received from the RSCC and other agencies solicited. It is anticipated that copies of the final IEE will be distributed to the RSCC for information purposes in February, 1988.

FUTURE ACTION:

No further action is anticipated. Project should be kept on the books at least until after the final IEE is received.

Prepared by: R. Edwards
Phone: (403) 420-2525
Originated: September 27, 1985
Updated: December 18, 1985
Updated: November 19, 1986 (R. Prach)
Updated: October 9, 1987 (P. Boothroyd)
Updated: January 11, 1988

Lead: CWS
Contact: P. Boothroyd
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4339; Mt. Norquay Ski Area Development; DOE (Parks); Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The operator of the Mt. Norquay ski facility, Banff Lifts Ltd., wishes to expand the existing facilities for recreational skiing at the Mt. Norquay facility in Banff National Park. A development plan document has been submitted to the Canadian Parks Service (CPS) which provided a basis for an IEE, prepared by CPS, for the Mt. Norquay Ski Area 1988 Development Plan.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential impact of expansion of the ski facility on significant wildlife habitat and wildlife utilization of the area; wastewater treatment system which is currently inadequate for present needs.

STATUS:

The IEE was reviewed and comments provided to CPS in time for them to be made available at public meetings held in early November.

FUTURE ACTION:

No further RSCC involvement is required. The project can be closed.

Prepared by: R. Edwards
Phone: (403) 420-2525

Originated: September 27, 1985
Updated: December 18, 1985
Updated: November 18, 1986 (R. Prach)
Updated: October 9, 1987 (P. Boothroyd)
Updated: January 1, 1988 (P. Boothroyd)
Updated: May 18, 1988 (P. Boothroyd)
Updated: August 17, 1988 (P. Boothroyd)
Updated: November 14, 1988 (P. Boothroyd)

Lead: CWS
Contact: P. Boothroyd
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-619; Phase III Banff Highway Twinning Proposal; DPW; Alberta

BACKGROUND:

During the past four years, DPW has widened a 27 kilometre stretch of the Trans-Canada Highway, from Banff National Park's east gate to Sunshine Village access road. The project was essential to alleviate the severe traffic congestion on this highway. Each of the first two phases (I:0-13 km and II:13-27 km) was approved, following public reviews led by federal environmental assessment panels, subject to stringent environmental standards. Department of Public Works (DPW) is seeking Cabinet approval to proceed with Phase III Banff Highway Twinning, an additional 45 kilometres at an estimated cost of $77.6 million over a 5 year period. An initial assessment of Phase III, from Sunshine to Lake Louise, has been completed by DPW. The success of mitigation of earlier phases contributed to a decision not to refer the Phase III to a panel review.

KEY ISSUES:

Continued high standard for environmental design, construction and monitoring.

STATUS:

DOE Minister has officially advised DPW that Phase III should have high priority. A public consultation program, coordinated by DPW and assisted by Parks Canada, was carried out in the fall of 1986; public turnout was light. Funding for Phase III construction will require Cabinet approval. Design work and environmental studies started in 1986 and are continuing but funding levels are low. Unless construction funding is approved soon, DPW will need to reassign or lay-off staff.

FUTURE ACTION:

Continue participation on project coordinating committees. Ensure that design and construction conforms with DOE objectives.

Prepared by: N. Tywoniuk
Phone: (403) 468-8063
Originated: October 8, 1985
Updated: December 18, 1985
Updated: February 07, 1986
Updated: July 04, 1986
Updated: January 23, 1987
Updated: July 27, 1987
Updated: October 31, 1988

Lead: RDGO
Contact: N. Tywoniuk
Phone: (403) 468-8063

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4412; Blood Indian Reserve Irrigation Proposal; Alberta; Indian Affairs, PFRA; Blood Indian Band

BACKGROUND:

In the early 1980s, an irrigation feasibility study by the Blood Indian Tripartite Committee (Alberta, DIAND, Blood Indian Band) recommended irrigation of 25,000 acres on the Big Lease area of the Blood Indian Reserve. Subsequent reviews by the Committee, Intergroup Consultants, and DOE concluded the project was technically and economically feasible. DOE found the EIA to be deficient with regard to a number of key issues related to irrigation, and consequently a revised IEE was prepared by PFRA in early 1988.

KEY ISSUES:

Wind erosion of topsoil, a major problem in this region, would be reduced. Waterfowl habitat could be developed at suitable sites within the project boundaries, possibly in association with programs by Ducks Unlimited or the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

STATUS:

There is an "Intent to proceed" with the project, however, it has been scaled-down. It is expected that the project will be extended over a 12-year period. The Blood Indian Band will be expected to transfer 8,000 acres of land to the Province of Alberta. A referendum will be held by the Band on December 15, 1988. A Public Information Program will be held in Lethbridge and on the Blood Reserve. The first draft of the IEE was circulated and generally accepted. Recommendations will be endorsed by the three parties involved and will become a part of the legal agreement for the project implementation. If mitigation measures identified are not fulfilled, the project will not proceed.

FUTURE ACTION:

The RSCC should continue to track this project and provide advice to the Tripartite Committee or its members as required. CWS should encourage and promote waterfowl habitat development as opportunities arise.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: November 26, 1986
Updated: January 29, 1987
Updated: January 20, 1988
Updated: November 17, 1988

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4263 Oldman River-Three Rivers Dam; Alberta; Indian Affairs

BACKGROUND:

After more than a decade of assessment and planning, Alberta Environment approved construction of a dam on the Oldman River at the Three River site near Brocket, Alberta. This site is 12 km upstream of the Peigan Indian Reserve. The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) is preparing to defend a statement of claim by the Peigan Nation in the Federal Court of Canada, tentatively in spring, 1988. The claim alleges impact from the dam on the reserve lands. In January 1987, DIAND asked Environment Canada to assist in their defense by evaluating environmental impacts on the reserve. Environment Canada resonded to this request by preparing assessment reports, dated February 20, 1987; May 8, 1987; and July 9, 1987. Environment Canada identified a number of potential impacts on reserve lands that could result from construction and operation of the Three Rivers Dam.

KEY ISSUES:

Crop damage from staging waterfowl, mercury contamination of fish, dust storms from reservoir, loss of swimming opportunities, riparian rights, long-term maintenance of cottonwood forests, water-shortages throughout the Oldman River basin.

STATUS:

Construction on the Oldman River dam is continuing. The Regional Hydropower Committee and associates are continuing to review and assess reports as required.

FUTURE ACTION:

Environment Canada and DFO will continue to provide advice to DIAND as required.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: January 20, 1988

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4433; Daishowa Canada Co. Ltd., Peace River Kraft Pulp Mill, Alberta; Western Diversification Office

BACKGROUND:

Daishowa Canada has proposed construction and operation of a new bleached kraft pulpmill on the Peace River, 16 km downstream from the town of Peace River. Annual production is expected to be in the order of 240,000 tonnes of hardwood (aspen) pulp and 82,000 tonnes of softwood pulp. Wood supply will be in the form of whole logs (hardwood) from new logging operations and chips (softwood) from existing sawmills within a 200 km radius of the town of Peace River.

KEY ISSUES:

Environment Canada has been requested to participate in the review of an EIA prepared within the Alberta Environmental Assessment process. The project has been referred to DOE under the Canada/Alberta Sub-Agreement on EIA.

Federal interests in the project include:

a) Water Quality - The Pulp and Paper Effluent Regulations under the Fisheries Act apply. An opportunity exists to promote installation of "best available treatment technology" for parameters such as BOD, TSS, toxicity, etc.
b) Air Quality - The facility will be subject to the Clean Air Act - Wood Pulping Industry National Emission Guidelines for New Stationary Sources. There is an opportunity to promote best available technology for parameters such as particulates, SO_2 and odour.
c) Dioxins - The process used to produce bleached kraft pulp utilizes chlorine and chlorine dioxide CLO_2 as bleaching agents. Production of dioxins has been associated with this process. Dioxins are among the most toxic organic compounds produced by man. The significance of dioxins in wastes or products from pulpmills is under close evaluation in Canada and the U.S. Any new bleached kraft mill can be expected tc be subjected to close scrutiny.
d) Downstream Water Use - Indian reserves and Wood Buffalo National Park are located downstream from the proposed pulpmill. Concerns about water quality and toxic chemicals (i.e. dioxins) could be related to these federal lands.
e) Fisheries - Commerical, recreational and domestic fisheries exist along the waterway. Species of interest include whitefish, walleye, goldeye, etc. Concerns about the potential for tainting could be raised.
f) Migratory Birds - Concerns could be raised about potential long-term effects of waste discharges on waterfowl (e.g. reproductive capability) or waterfowl in the Peace/Athabasca delta. If the woods operations are included in the EIS, concerns about forest management impacts on migratory birds could be raised.

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g) Forest Management - Interest is expected from the public in including the woods operations/forest management agreements in the EIS. Federal interest in this should be peripheral as long as federal funding is not involved.

h) Federal Funding - The Western Diversification Office has provided 150 K towards completion of the project definition feasibility study and federal funding in the order of $9.5 million will be made available for project development; contingent upon environmental acceptability. The latter involved the construction of a 17 km lam rail spur to the plant site.

STATUS:

Technical review of the EIA and two supplementary reports was completed with the conclusion that all applicable federal regulations would be met. Environment Canada's additional interest in a cooperative environmental effects monitoring program to evaluate incremental and accumulative effects is being pursed through the consultative mechanism under the Canada-Alberta Accord. A permit to construct was issued by ADOE June 22, 1988.

FUTURE ACTION:

Close the file. Monitor project progress.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: March 15, 1988
Updated: November 4, 1988
Updated: February 23, 1989 (W. Fenton)

Lead: EP
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4335-1; Commercial Trucking of Magnesite on the Kootenay Parkway; Parks; The Magnesium Company of Canada Ltd.

BACKGROUND:

The Kootenay Parkway is an important highway route between the Columbia Valley in British Columbia and Alberta. Use of the Parkway for transport of resource materials has gradually increased over the past two decades. New industrial activities in Alberta may result in significantly greater transport of ore from mines in the Columbia Valley to processing plants in Alberta. The issue is addressed in the Kootenay Park Management Plan, and a draft IEE was prepared in early 1987. A summary of the major concerns identified in the IEE was distributed to the public at public meetings.

KEY ISSUES:

Construction of a magnesite processing plant at High River will process ore mined near Kootenay National Park. The material may then be hauled through Kootenay and Banff National Parks. Although the environmental impacts of the plant were addressed in an environmental impact assessment, transport of ore to the site was not.

Increasing use of the Kootenay Parkway by commercial vehicles may detract from park visitors' opportunities to safely enjoy and appreciate Kootenay National Park. It could also result in impacts to park resources, especially wildlife mortality from vehicle collision.

Methods to reduce the impacts of commercial trucking to park resources and visitor use could have negative socio-economic impacts to businesses and communities in the surrounding region.

STATUS:

Information collection to determine the impact of trucking to wildlife populations in Kootenay National Park is underway. Research to identify the effects of trucking to park visitors, and an examination of the socio-economic impacts which would result from various controls on commercial truck traffic are to be completed by the end of July, 1988.

FUTURE ACTION:

Information collection is to be completed by the end of July, 1988. The draft IEE will then be revised to address the wide range of issues (e.g. socio-economic, resource protection, legal, infrastructure) and identify possible courses of action for traffic management on the Kootenay Parkway. Anticipated date for the completion of the draft IEE is late September, 1988, with public meetings to follow during fall, 1988. A final IEE incorporating public values is expected in late 1988.

Prepared by: B. Beswick
Phone: (403) 292-4412
Originated: February 22, 1988

Lead: Canadian Parks Service
Contact: B. Leeson
Phone: (403) 292-4438

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4436; Public Works Canada; Maintenance Dredging, Manitoba, Alberta, Northwest Territories

BACKGROUND:

Public Works Canada (PWC) undertakes a regular program of maintenance dredging on several major waterways in the Prairie provinces (Red River/Lake Winnipeg, Athabasca River/Clearwater River) and Northwest Territories (Hay River, Great Slave Lake, Mackenzie River). Environmental Screening to meet the requirements of the EARP Order-In-Council has been ongoing but has been ad hoc with limited attention to the technical soundness of predictions made, effectiveness of mitigative measures proposed or efficiency of repetitive screening (ie yearly) of the same projects. Environment Canada (DOE) and DFO suggested in 1986 and 1987 reviews undertaken for PWC (EP Lead, Regional Dredging Committee support) that PWC consider utilizing a technique employed in the province of Ontario for assessment of minor or repetitive projects; "class assessment" to improve the quality of Initial Assessment and improve efficiency for PWC and review agencies; in subsequent screening of maintenance dredging in the W&N Region. PWC agreed to this approach in late September, 1987.

KEY ISSUES:

Maintenance dredging impacts are largely site specific. Concerns may relate to: disposal of contaminated sediments, water quality, habitat degradation for fish and wildlife, incompatibility with local land uses (eg. recreation), etc. Issues will be confirmed as part of the class assessment.

STATUS:

A workshop was held in early January, 1989, to evaluate available screening procedures applicable to PWC's needs and to agree upon environmental concerns that may exist at each site in the Western & Northern Region. DOE and DFO participated in this workshop.

FUTURE ACTION:

A report outlining the results of workshop #1 is expected by mid-February, 1989. A second workshop to evaluate a case study assessment of one site is to be held in early March. A complete assessment of all sites is anticipated before April, 1989.

Prepared by: W. Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013
Originated: January 12, 1988
Updated: March 31, 1988
Updated: February 16, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: W. Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4440; Aircraft De-icing at Major Airports, DOT

BACKGROUND:

Glycol based fluids are used to de-ice aircraft. A portion of the fluids spill onto the runways and enter airport stormwater collection systems. High levels of glycol and biochemical oxygen demand have been found in stormwater during de-icing season. Transport Canada has not implemented measures to control glycol pollution.

KEY ISSUES:

Water quality and waste disposal.

STATUS:

DOT prepared an IEE on the use of glycol based fluids at eight major federal airports including Calgary, Winnipeg and Regina. The RSCC reviewed the IEE and comments were sent to DOT.

FUTURE ACTION:

No future action required. Suggest the project file be closed.

Prepared by: Kath Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8016
Originated: January 07, 1988
Updated: February 15, 1989

Lead: EP (EQB)
Contact: Kath Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8016

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4445; Alberta Newsprint Company Limited (ANC); Newsprint (CTMP) Mill, 8 km upstream of Whitecourt on the Athabasca River

BACKGROUND:

A newsprint mill with an annual capacity of 220,000 metric tons, capital cost $360 million, 200 employees in the plant and an additional 175 jobs in the woodlands operation. There are plans for doubling the capacity (and employment).

KEY ISSUES:

Effluent treatment and instream quality particularly during low flows in winter (7 Q10), cumulative effects with Kraft mill (Champion) upstream and CTMP mill (Millar) just downstream. Impact of railroad crossing of Athabasca River. Local weather, ice fog and fog creation in proximity to Whitecourt airport and the Town of Whitecourt. Wildlife impact along river corridor and in woodlands operations, particularly if woodland caribou affected. Downstream water user guarantees and involvement.

STATUS:

The EIA and supplemental information was completed July, 1988. The permit to construct was issued September, 1988 and recognized the need for further resolution of issues identified in the review process.

FUTURE ACTION:

Monitor licensing and construction/operation as required. Continue pursual of Environmental Effects Monitoring program for incremental and accumulative effects.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: November 4, 1988

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4449; Caroline Area Gas Development Group (CAGDG), Alberta

BACKGROUND:

The CAGDG is a 16 member group represented by Shell Canada. They plan to process natural gas liquids, sulphur and gas from the Caroline Swan Hills field in the Rocky Mountain House to Sundre area. The proposal includes expansions of the Ram River and Strachan gas plants, a new plant, 20 new wells, gathering and transmission pipelines, transmission lines and a rail line for sulphur transport. Gas production of 300 MSCF/D is anticipated; reserve is 30 to 35% H_2S. The capital cost is expected to be in the order of $500 million.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential issues include air quality, acid deposition, water quality, fisheries, forestry, land use, development alternatives, health and safety, effects on population changes or community services and roads.

Key federal interest in the project relate to the ancillary rail line from the plant to transport the anticipated volume of 2,700 tonnes/day of sulphur.

STATUS:

Preliminary discussions to resolving the logistics for a comprehensive review of the project proposal were held between ADOE, EP and the NTA.

FUTURE ACTION:

EP will provide the required technical assistance and liaison to the NTA.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: November 4, 1988
Updated: November 29, 1988

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4432; Sunshine Village Initial Environmental Evaluation

BACKGROUND:

Canadian Parks Service reviewed the above document, and requested comments and advice from the RSCC - particularly on the discussion of the hydrology and watershed. Parks would prepare the final critique and conclusions about the accuracy, significance and acceptability of the project description and impacts of the proposed project.

KEY ISSUES:

Key issues as per Parks' request - the review focussed on water and wastewater management.

STATUS:

Review comments were provided to Parks in May, 1988. Subsequent to transmittal of the identified concerns by Parks to the proponent, a meeting was held between EP and Sunshine Village personnel during which the concerns were further elucidated.

FUTURE ACTION:

After public consultation (schedule uncertain) the Minister will make a decision on the proposal. The RSCC may be requested to provide review of supplementary information to be provided by the proponent in support of the proposal.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: November 4, 1988

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4451; Solv-Ex Corporation Bitumount Commercial Oil Sands Area, Fort McMurray

BACKGROUND:

Solv-Ex proposes to mine and upgrade 9000 bpd (1440 m^3/d) of bitumen into synthetic crude oil using "Aurobon Technology". Mining will be by truck and shovel operation; bitument extraction will be by solvent extraction. The proponent states that the process will eliminate long-term requirements for tailings ponds. The Capital cost is estimated at $300 million; operations workforce about 322. The lease is immediately adjacent to the Athabasca River and Bitumount Historic Site (Tp 96, 97; R-10, 11 W4M).

KEY ISSUES:

Key issues include: proximity to Athabasca River, air quality, acid deposition, water quality, groundwater protection, fisheries, wildlife, forestry, land use impacts of off-site infrastructure and services, public concerns for health and safety, native concerns (Fort McKay) and cumulative downstream effects.

STATUS:

Inactive.

FUTURE ACTION:

Monitor project progress.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: November 4, 1988

Lead: EP (ADO)
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4448; Georgetown Developments Inc., Golf Course and Resort Hotel, Canmore Corridor, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

Georgetown Developments Inc. is proposing a 45 hole golf course and 500 room, five star resort hotel complex south of the Bow River between the Town of Canmore, Banff National Park, and the Canmore Nordic Centre.

The lands are within Kananaskis Country. The golf course is to be located on the Bow River floodplain and the resort hotel on higher lands. Peak season employment is estimated at about 600 employees with staff housing to be provided on site. Estimated costs for facilities including infrastructure (water wells, power, bridges, roads, expansion of Canmore's sewage treatment facilities) and flood control are about $75 million.

KEY ISSUES:

Key issues are flood proofing of the golf course and the impact of an elevated access road across the floodplain, construction and operations impacts on water quality and fisheries, wildlife habitat (deer winter range impact) and realignment of streams. Infrastructure arrangements with Town of Canmore, community perceptions and public discussion of issues and concerns will have to be addressed. The proposed location is adjacent to the boundary of Banff National Park.

STATUS:

A select topic EIA was requested on June 1, 1988. The proposal has been before the Kananaskis Country Interdepartmental Committee (KCIC) and the EIA review will be coordinated with the KCIC. The company has had discussions with Canmore Town officials. Preliminary DOE/DFO input provided to Alberta Environment.

FUTURE ACTION:

The Terms of Reference for the select topic EIA will be set with review agencies and the company. Continue to coordinate DOE/DFO input.

Prepared by: B. Leeson
Phone: (403) 292-4438
Originated: 1988
Updated: February 23, 1989

Lead: CPS
Contact: B. Leeson
Phone: (403) 292-4438

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4450; Suncor Resources Group Inc., Debottlenecking Project, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

On October 6, 1987 Suncor met with the ERCB and Alberta Environment to discuss the following proposal:

- increase crude oil production and capacity by approximately 20% and 40% respectively over the existing 53,000 BPCD;
- mining will increase from 122,000 TPCD to 145,000 TPCD.

Debottlenecking will include new mining, extraction and overburden handling equipment, and upgrading and utilities facilities (coker fractionation, naphtha recovery unit, hot bitumen storage, tankage (coker furnaces)).

KEY ISSUES:

Air quality - emissions (SO_2, H_2S, NOx, heavy metals)
- hydrocarbons
- odours

Reclamation
Sulphur recovery
Acid deposition
Water recycling
Water quality - surface water, groundwater
Native benefits, employment

STATUS:

Suncor submitted an EIA in August, 1988 to ADOE under the subagreement. A federal review was conducted. Comments from that review were provided to ADOE September 27, 1988.

FUTURE ACTION:

Suncor has not pursued its application since deficiencies and emission requirements were identified to them.

Prepared by: F.J. Schulte, Alberta Environment
Phone: (403) 427-6209
Originated: June 30, 1988
Updated: February 15, 1989 (F. Zaal)

Lead: EP
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4462; Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc. (APFI), (a subsidiary of Crestbrook Forest Industries Ltd. (CFI) - Athabasca Pulp Mill, Alberta

BACKGROUND:

APFI has proposed construction and operation of a new bleached kraft pulp mill on the Athabasca River, 50 km downstream from the town of Athabasca. The pulp mill will be designed to produce a nominal average of 1,500 air dried tonnes per day (ADt/d) of hardwood pulp during 260 days per year, yielding an annual production of 390,000 ADt. Softwood pulp production capacity will be 1,250 ADt/d for 85 days per year, yielding an annual production of 106,250 ADt/d. During the first four years of operation, the mill will run for an average of 288 dyas on hardwood and 57 days on softwood for an expected annual production of 432,000 ADt of hardwood pulp and 71,250 ADt of softwood pulp. Wood supply will be from the north and east of the mill site in the Green Zone and the White Zone south and east of the plant. Capital cost for the mill is estimated to be about one billion dollars (1988). Construction could start as early as spring 1989 with pulping start up in the fall of 1991. During construction, approximately 2,800 man years of employment would be generated on site. During operation, 400 jobs would be created at the mill with the woodlands operation generating another 600 jobs. All employment figures are approximately plus or minus 10%.

KEY ISSUES:

Water Quality - environmental technology (kraft versus CTMP), dioxins, absorbable organic halides (AOX), toxicity, biochemical oxygen demand, total suspended solids, colour, odour, taste, effluent dispersion; Fisheries; Air Quality - total reduced sulphur, SO_2, H_2S emissions; Adjacent Land Use; Transportation (roads, bridge, rail); Socio-economic impact.

STATUS:

The project was announced on December 13, 1988. An EIA has been formally requested on December 22, 1988. The company retained Stanley Associates Engineering Ltd. to compile the EIA and submit the EIA report to Alberta Environment. The company's public involvement program consists of (i) meeting with downstream communities on the Athabasca River and (ii) public meetings in area communities. A proposed table of contents for the EIA was reviewed by federal agencies under the subagreement and ensuing comments passed on to ADOE at a meeting January 27, 1989.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review of EIA.

Prepared by: F.J. Schulte, Alberta Environment
Phone: (403) 427-6209
Originated: February 1, 1989
Updated: February 15, 1989 (F. Zaal)

Lead: EP
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

SASKATCHEWAN

NW-7160	Husky Oil Upgrader (EP)
NW-7146	Cigar Lake Test Mine (EP)
NW-7094	Beaverlodge Mine Decommissioning (EP)
NW-7161	Qu'Appelle River Conveyance Project (IWD)
NW-7170	Redberry Lake Cottage Development Proposal (CWS)
NW-958	Collins Bay - Eagle Point Ore Deposits (EP)
NW-971	McClean Lake Ore Deposit (EP)
NW-917	Midwest Project; Saskatchewan North Ore Deposit (EP)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7160; Husky Oil Upgrader; EM&R; Saskatchewan/Alberta

BACKGROUND:

This project involves the construction of a 54,000 barrel-per-day upgrader plant three kilometres southeast of Lloydminster, Saskatchewan, and production facilities and ancillary structures in both Alberta and Saskatchewan. The estimated capital cost is $1.4 billion and the estimated annual operating cost is $95 million. The site has been prepared for the construction of the facility.

At federal loan guarantees are required from Energy, Mines and Resources to finance the project, they are the federal initiator.

The Federal Government agreed to work within the environmental assessment framework of the Saskatchewan Provincial Government.

KEY ISSUES:

Conditions of the Federal Environmental Assessment Review process must be met and this is being accommodated partially within the provincial process. This eliminated the need for two separate formal environmental impact reviews plus allowed Energy, Mines and Resources to meet its obligations under the Environmental Assessment and Review Process.

STATUS:

Environment Canada reviewed the proposed EIS guidelines in the fall of 1984, and in October, 1984, provided pertinent advice to both the Saskatchewan government and to the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources (initiator). Environment Canada also reviewed the Husky Oil Ltd. "Baseline Data Report", and in December, 1984, provided advice to Saskatchewan on dispersion modelling, climate, air and water quality, limnology and wildlife.

Environment Canada completed it's review of the impact statement in May, 1985 with federal concerns addressed by the proponent. Ministerial approval from the Saskatchewan Minister of Environment was given in October, 1985. The upgrader is under construction.

FUTURE ACTION:

Environment Canada will provide comments to Saskatchewan Environment during the approval process for the disposal of wastewater from the upgrader. The upgrader will treat and recycle as much water as possible. That portion of the process water which cannot be treated for recycle or release to the municipal wastewater system will go to deep well disposal.

Prepared by: John Witteman
Phone: (306) 780-6464
Originated: October 1, 1985
Updated: December 10, 1985
Updated: February 12, 1986
Updated: July 15, 1986
Updated: August 19, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: John Witteman
Phone: (306) 780-6464

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7146; Cigar Lake Test Mine; Cigar Lake Mining Development Corporation; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

This project was previously called Waterbury Lake, SERU, and COGEMA. The uranium deposit, which is the richest found to date in Saskatchewan, averages 14 percent uranium, with proven reserves of 130 million kilograms; inferred reserves are 45 million kilograms, at a lower grade of 4 percent. The Cigar Lake Mining Corporation was formed to manage the development of a mine and to ensure that provincial and federal requirements are met. If developed, this will be the largest uranium mine in the world.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential large scale environmental impacts, including release of radioactive elements, terrain disturbances and disruption of fish and wildlife resources.

STATUS:

During 1987 the Regional Mining Committee reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement for a test mine. Approval to proceed was received from the Atomic Energy Control Board and the Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety. Test mining commenced early in 1988. Cigar Lake Mining Development Corporation has implemented an environmental monitoring program for the test mine in consultation with the regulatory agencies.

FUTURE ACTION:

Prepare to review an Environmental Impact Statement for possible full scale mining which could be received in 1990.

Prepared by: John Witteman/Dennis Lawson
Originated: October 1, 1985
Updated: December 19, 1985
Updated: February 12, 1986
Updated: January 16, 1987
Updated: November 17, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989 (D. Lawson)

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7094; Beaverlodge Mine Decommissioning; CAMECO (formerly Eldorado Resources Limited; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

In December, 1981, Eldorado Resources Limited announced the closure of its mine near Uranium City, Saskatchewan. In June, 1982, Eldorado submitted a reclamation plan to the regulatory agencies. The approach to decommissioning has been to protect the surrounding natural environment by employing good engineering practices to ensure long-term stability of the site.

KEY ISSUES:

The reclamation of the grounds and subsequent transfer of ownership to the province, is dependent on runoff meeting model predictions of Surface Water Quality Objectives. Should compliance with the modelling predictions not be achieved, ownership would remain with CAMECO. The regulatory agencies are also concerned about the stability of rock covers; including permafrost action, piping, settlement, rates and effects of revegetation, and shoreline erosion. The long-term integrity of three small dams is under surveillance.

STATUS:

The reclamation was completed in July, 1985, and joint annual inspections have since been conducted by the regulatory agencies. The final points of control will be monitored for a period of five to eight years. If the monitoring shows sufficient compliance with Saskatchewan Surface Water Quality Objectives, and if annual inspections indicate the effective long-term containment of the tailings, ownership of the site will be transferred to the province. Two of the three small dams were upgraded in 1987 and some areas of excessive settlement were repaired.

FUTURE ACTION:

EP and AECB will make annual inspections of the site and sample the runoff, as deemed necessary, to confirm results provided by the company and the province. EP will involve the Regional Mining Committee as required.

Prepared by: John Witteman/Dennis Lawson
Originated: October 1, 1985
Updated: December 19, 1985
Updated: February 12, 1986
Updated: January 16, 1987
Updated: November 17, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989 (D. Lawson)

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7161; Qu'Appelle River Conveyance Project; Saskatchewan Water Corporation; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Under a 5-year Canada-Saskatchewan Agreement, a program was initiated in 1984 to increase the bank full conveyance capacity of the Qu'Appelle River to 14.16 m^3/s, primarily for the reach between Craven and Pasqua Lake. Total cost of the project is 4.75 million, of which $400,000 has been approved for fisheries mitigation works. When complete, the project will greatly improve the operational versitility of the basin water resources and provide some flood relief.

KEY ISSUES:

Impact of the project on fish populations. Increased sediment transport prior to re-establishment of vegative cover could also have negative impact on aquatic resources.

STATUS:

The Qu'Appelle conveyance project is proceeding with an estimated $900,000 to be spent during 1987/88, predominantly on spoil pile shaping.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE, DIAND, and DFO will continue to monitor the project and provide advice as required.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6025
Originated: February 03, 1986
Updated: July 08, 1986
Updated: November 13, 1987

Lead: IWD
Contact: L.H. Wiens
Phone: (306) 780-5329

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7170; Redberry Lake Cottage Development Proposal; Redberry Development Corporation; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

The water and islands of Redberry Lake, located 100 km northwest of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, constitute a Migratory Bird Sanctuary. The lake is surrounded by a narrow zone of aspen parkland. Larger blocks of natural habitat in the northeast and southwest corners are provincial crown land designated as "critical and important wildlife habitat." Pelican Island within the Sanctuary supports a large colony of (threatened) white pelicans (240 pairs) and double-crested cormorants (53 pairs). Forty piping plovers (endangered) were counted along the shoreline in 1984. All told, the lake and surrounding area supports at least 150 species of birds: ducks including white-winged scoters, gulls, terns, shorebirds and songbirds.

In 1985, the Redberry Development Corporation announced their intention to build a 400 lot cottage subdivision with a mobile home park, campground, hotel and marina on approximately 160 acres bordering the southwest portion of the lake.

KEY ISSUES:

The potential threat to birds and their habitat posed by the development aroused widespread concern. The Canadian Wildlife Service and other government agencies, particularly the Saskatchewan Department of Parks and Renewable Resources, as well as other conservation oriented organizations; World Wildlife Fund, Saskatchewan Natural History Society, Saskatoon Natural History Society, Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation; expressed concern.

STATUS:

The Canadian Wildlife Service and the Saskatchewan Wildlife Branch conducted a comprehensive inventory of the wildlife and wildlife habitat of the Redberry Lake Complex. A joint report presented those data complete with a set of managment recommendations for maintaining the wildlife values of Redberry Lake. The development proposal was rejected by the Director of Community Planning based on the argument that the proposed development was incompatible with the wildlife values of the area. That decision was upheld by the Development Appeal Board pending the results of an environmental impact statement. No EIS has been prepared and the proponents are endeavouring to take the provincial government to court over their proposal.

The municipal government has entered into a management planning program for Redberry Lake which includes representation by Canadian Wildlife Service (Phil Taylor, CWS, Saskatoon). The planning group is to evaluate all potential land uses, particularly in the area of tourism and related development opportunities, taking into account associated socio-economic and wildlife resource management concerns. Members of the group have provided input into a draft planning document being prepared by a consultant. The final report will include a recommended planning framework by which development proposals would be judged for acceptability. Public meetings are to be held on the recommended planning framework after the consultant's report has been finalized. These meetings would take place in the early part of the new year.

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FUTURE ACTION:

At this point, it is not known how and when the RSCC may become more involved with this project. It is possible that the planning framework, once approved, could be subjected to a review through the provincial assessment and review process. In this case, a request for federal input into the review could be expected.

Prepared by: R.W. Prach
Phone: (403) 420-2525
Originated: December 12, 1986
Updated: December 2, 1987 (P.N. Boothroyd)
Updated: November 14, 1988

Lead: CWS
Contact: P.N. Boothroyd
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-958; Collins Bay - Eagle Point Mines; CAMECO (formerly Eldorado Resources Limited; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

CAMECO, a Canadian Mining and Energy Corporation, through its Rabbit Lake Operation, operates the Rabbit Lake/Collins Bay uranium mine and mill facilities near Wollaston Lake in northern Saskatchewan. The original Rabbit Lake mine operated from 1975 until 1984. Currently the Rabbit Lake mill is processing ore from the Collins Bay B-zone deposit. However, this deposit will be mined out by 1991. Three neighbouring uranium deposits have been approved for future mining. Decommissioning studies of the Rabbit Lake mine and tailings are underway.

KEY ISSUES:

Release of radioactive elements and heavy metals. All three future mines are partially under the waters of Collins Bay and there could be continuing public concern. The mined-out Rabbit Lake pit is being used to dispose of tailings from the B-zone mine and future mines.

STATUS:

Eldor Mines has obtained approval from the Atomic Energy Control Board (AECB) and Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety (SEPS) to produce uranium from two small deposits - the Collins Bay A-zone and D-zone. These small mines would be mined in less than two years. The company has also received permission for full scale mining at Eagle Point, a larger deposit which would be mined into the next century, pending the results of further underground exploration and test mining. The final Environmental Impact Statement was reviewed by the Regional Mining Committee. Approval to proceed was granted early in 1988.

FUTURE ACTION:

EP will involve the Regional Mining Committee as required in any 1990 review of a revised proposal for full scale mining at Eagle Point.

Prepared by: Dennis Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462
Originated: January 16, 1987
Updated: November 17, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-971; McClean Lake Ore Deposit; Minatco Ltd.; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

Discovery of this uranium deposit in 1978 was followed by five years of baseline environmental monitoring from 1979 to 1983. Each of the five separate reports was individually reviewed by the Regional Mining Committee. Preliminary estimates indicate 6 million kg of ore grading 1.2% U_3O_8. The company received comments from the regulatory agencies during 1988 on a proposed minewater treatment scheme.

KEY ISSUES:

Release of radionuclides to the terrestrial and aquatic environments.

STATUS:

The company plans to secure a milling contract or design its own small mill, and then to proceed with an Environmental Impact Statement for full scale mining. Uncertainties with respect to milling could continue to delay the project. Test mining is not anticipated.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review draft and final Environmental Impact Statements during 1989-90, if and as they come to be prepared, and advise the Atomic Energy Control Board and Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety.

Prepared by: Dennis Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462
Originated: November 17, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-917; Midwest Mine; Denison Mines Limited; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

The Midwest uranium deposit, briefly referred to as the Saskatchewan North deposit by its present owners, was discovered in 1978. Drilling has substantiated reserves of more than 25 million kg of uranium grading about 1.25% U_3O_8. The company is currently assessing the feasibility of underground mining.

KEY ISSUES:

Release of radionuclides to the terrestrial and aquatic environments.

STATUS:

During 1988 the Regional Mining Committee reviewed an EIS for test mining. The proposal made reference to the earlier three volume Environmental Impact Statement, EIS Summary and eleven Supporting Documents of the previous operator, Canada Wide Mines Ltd., which were reviewed in 1982. Regulatory approvals were received in 1988 and test mining is underway.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review draft and final Environmental Impact Statements during 1989-90 on full scale mining and advise the Atomic Energy Control Board and Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety.

Prepared by: Dennis Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462
Originated: November 17, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

MANITOBA

NW-2568	Manitoba Hydro - Limestone Hydro Project (IWD)
NW-2370	Shoal Lake Indian Reserve 40; Cottage Sub-division Development (EP)
NW-2597	Pasquia Polder III (CWS)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2568; Limestone Hydro Project; Manitoba Hydro, Nelson River; Manitoba

BACKGROUND:

Construction of the Manitoba Hydro Development Project at Upper Limestone Rapids, lower Nelson River, Manitoba (known as "Limestone Project") resumed April, 1985, two years ahead of original schedule. The project is located 25 km downstream of the Long Spruce Generating Station and will be a "run-of-the-river" operation. The project powerhouse cofferdam was built during 1976 to 1978. Work was postponed thereafter, because of an unfavorable economic environment. Construction activities were renewed in 1985 after 42% of Limestone's output (500 megawatts) was purchased by the Northern States Power Co. At an estimated cost of $3.2 billion, the five to eight year development is reportedly the largest single construction project in North America. Power production will start in 1990 at 500 megawatts and will increase to 1280 megawatts by 1993. Direct employment will rise from 400 jobs in 1985 to a peak of 1,800 by 1987.

KEY ISSUES

Environmental impact; potential impact on populations of endemic brook trout and sturgeon in the Limestone forebay, Nelson River, and tributaries. The Project had previously received environmental approval in the 1970's.

STATUS:

Manitoba Hydro has hired an Environmental Inspector who lives on-site and ensures effective prevention of environmental impacts as construction progresses. Long-term monitoring of environmental impacts of this project is planned. Federal (DOE/DFO) and Provincial Departments and Agencies reviewed the Limestone Generating Station Environmental Impact Study and found it to be acceptable. The mechanism for continued federal-provincial review and advice is through the Limestone Environmental Impact Liason Committee.

FUTURE ACTION

DOE, DFO and DIAND will continue to monitor the project and to provide advice to the Limestone Environmental Impact Liaison Committee as required.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6025
Originated: August 22, 1985
Updated: December 9, 1985
Updated: January 23, 1986
Updated: January 29, 1987
Updated: March 15, 1988 (no change)

Lead: IWD
Contact: R. Halliday
Phone: (306) 780-5319

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2370; Shoal Lake Indian Reserve (I.R.) 40; Cottage Sub-division Development; DIAND: Manitoba/Ontario

BACKGROUND:

Shoal Lake I.R. 40 Band proposes to develop a 350 lot cottage sub-division on I.R. land; the site is near the intake for the City of Winnipeg drinking water supply. I.R. 40 straddles the Manitoba/Ontario border. Project referred to FEARO by DIAND, March, 1980; FEARO Panel established. Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) submitted to FEARO Panel by DIAND, June, 1984. DOE/DFO reviewed EIS and submitted deficiency statement to FEARO Panel, August, 1984; Indian Affairs addressed identified deficiencies, and submitted response to FEARO Panel, late, 1984. DOE is providing advice to Indian Affairs with respect to sewage and solid waste management on I.R. 40 and is monitoring activities of the several interested parties. Action by FEARO Panel in abeyance, pending results of four party discussions (federal and provincial governments, City of Winnipeg and Shoal Lake I.R. 40 Band) towards possible 'buy out' of Indian development rights on I.R. 40. DOE/DFO has prepared draft brief for submission to FEARO Panel, if public hearings are to be held.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential threat to Shoal Lake water quality and to fisheries resources. Potential threat to City of Winnipeg drinking water supply.

STATUS:

FEARO Panel action 'on hold' pending conclusion of four party negotiations. Meetings have recently been held between the City, Province and the Band. All parties appear to agree that negotiations have to conclude by summer, 1989, or be abandoned.

FUTURE ACTION:

Continue to monitor progress of negotiations towards possible 'buy out'. Continue to provide advice to DIAND on sewage and solid waste management on Shoal Lake I.R. 40.

Prepared by: H.C.R. Gavin
Phone: (403) 468-8014
Originated: December 9, 1985
Updated: December 9, 1985
Prepared by: B.W. Briscoe
Updated: July 18, 1986
Updated: February 2, 1987 (no change)
Updated: August 4, 1987
Updated: February 21, 1989

Lead: EP
Contact: B.W. Briscoe
Phone: (204) 949-4811

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-2597; Pasquia Polder III; Manitoba Water Resources Branch, Department of Natural Resources and Agriculture Canada (PFRA)

BACKGROUND:

The Water Resources Branch of the Manitoba Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), intends to undertake drainage of Pasquia Lake, near The Pas, Manitoba, and develop the area for agricultural use. Federal Government support funding has been designated for this project through the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Agency (PFRA) although no funding has been committed at this time.

The total area involved in the proposed Polder III development is 88 square miles. The Pasquia Lake area is 36 square miles. Since approximately 1960, considerable drainage has been undertaken in immediately adjacent areas. Drainage ditches, dykes and pumping equipment have undergone continued maintenance and upgrading. Pasquia Polder III, in part, represents a continuation and expansion of marsh and shallow-lake drainage in the area. Cumulative environmental impacts of the long term development have not been studied.

In the summer of 1984, the Water Resources Branch submitted a report entitled "Summary Report on Proposed Reclamation of Polder III Pasquia Land Settlement Project", to the Manitoba Environmental Assessment and Review Agency (MEARA). Following review by provincial agencies and invited federal agencies, the province concluded that the project would "not create environmental disruption of a magnitude to warrant an environmental assessment". However, it also noted that federal agencies had reservations about the proposal. The federal agencies involved in the review (EP, DFO, CWS and Agriculture Canada) questioned the economic justification for the project and identified concerns over water quality, wildlife habitat loss and mitigation, and crop depredation by waterfowl.

In addition to providing input into the provincial review, EP (MDO) advised PFRA that, because of the proposed expenditure of federal funds, an environmental review should be conducted according to the Environmental Assessment and Review Process Guidelines Order. Subsequently, in September 1986, PFRA distributed a report entitled "An Initial Environmental Assessment of the Pasquia Polder III Proposal, September, 1986". This report was reviewed by DFO, EP, IWD and CWS and detailed comments on the report were provided with a covering memo from G.R. Kerr (Regional Director, CWS, W&N Region) to G.H. MacKay (Director, Manitoba Affairs, PFRA) which highlighted the federal concerns. Mr. MacKay acknowledged receipt of the memo and noted the concerns in a letter dated December 22, 1986.

On November 19, 1986, a meeting was held to discuss the concerns of The Pas Indian Band. Represented at the meeting were MDNR (N. Carter, Deputy Minister (MDNR)); Special Forebay Committee; Manitoba Resource Development Impacts Office (MRDIO, INAC); The Pas Band and H. MacKay (PFRA).

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Subsequently The Pas Band hired a consultant (B. Sopuck) to set out proposed measures to compensate for environmental and traditional lifestyle losses. CWS met with the consultant to provide baseline data and advice.

The consultant's report, entitled "The Effects of the Pasquia Polder III Proposal on Wildlife and Recommendations for Mitigation" was completed on January 31, 1987. On April 9, 1987, a meeting was held in The Pas to discuss the findings in the report. Attending the meeting were D. Stewart and B. Clarkson (MDNR), the Chief and councillors of The Pas Band, H. MacKay (PFRA), representatives of MRDIO, P. Boothroyd (CWS), R. Sopuck and M. Kaufman (the Band's lawyer).

In a letter dated April 29, 1987, D. Stewart offered what MDNR considered to be suitable mitigation. The Pas Band did not fully accept this offer and another meeting was held at The Pas on July 3, 1987, to resolve disagreements. Discusssions at this meeting resulted in a letter from Chief O. Lathlin to D. Stewart, dated July 27, 1987, in which he layed out what The Pas Band was ready to accept as mitigation. At the time of this report, no response from D. Stewart was available.

KEY ISSUES:

Main concerns relate to the destruction of wildlife habitat, which has been occurring in The Pasquia Lake area on an incremental basis for approximately 35 years. Associated concerns are mitigation of habitat loss, crop depredation and contamination of surface and ground water.

STATUS:

The Pas Band is waiting for a response from MDNR to their proposed mitigation package. PFRA is waiting for an agreement to be reached between the Province and The Pas Band on mitigation before resuming active involvement in the project.

Recent communication with MDNR revealed that implementation of the project is presently uncertain. Local farmers do not like the revised project plans which include operation of Big Lake at elevations higher than what they are accustomed to; they claim that raised Big Lake levels would prevent them from farming certain areas presently being farmed. In addition, while PFRA still have funds allocated for the project in their MYOP, it is possible that these funds could be reallocated to a different project under the Agri-Food Development Subsidiary Agreement.

FUTURE ACTION:

CWS is continuing monitoring progress/new developments and will offer further advice/input if required. While the project is presently inactive, it is recommended that it be kept on the books until it is either reactivated or terminated.

Prepared by: D.H. Bergman (EP)/
P. Boothroyd (CWS)
Originated: July 25, 1986
Updated: January 26, 1987
Updated: August 11, 1987
Updated: April 5, 1988

Lead: CWS
Contact: P. Boothroyd
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

NW-10418	Highwood Resources - Thor Lake Beryllium Project (EP)
NW-10821	DND Low Level Flights (EP)
NW-10584	North Warning System (EP)
NW-6330	Urangesellschaft Canada Ltd. - Kiggavik (Lone Gull) Uranium Mine (EP)
NW-4441	Bison Diseases, Wood Buffalo National Park (Alberta and Northwest Territories), (CPS)

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-10418 Thor Lake Beryllium/Rare Earths Mine; DIAND; Highwood Resources Ltd. - Hecla Mining

BACKGROUND:

Highwood Resources Ltd. has proposed development of a beryllium/rare earths mine at Thor Lake, NWT; approximately 100 km southeast of Yellowknife, just north of the Hearne Channel of Great Slave Lake. Mine development is at an advanced stage of exploration. Bulk sampling to confirm ore metallurgy was ongoing during 1985, 1986 and 1987. A winter access road from Great Slave Lake to this site was under construction in 1986 and issued in 1987.

KEY ISSUES:

Beryllium and rare earths deposits are somewhat unique. Impacts from development of this deposit are uncertain given the lack of experience in the W&N Region with minerals of this type. Concerns may exist because of:

(a) uncertainty over milling and tailings treatment technology
(b) limited information on the environmental toxicology of beryllium, rare earths and related compounds
(c) possible extension of a winter road into this area from the Terra Mines Ltd. Bullmoose Lake Gold project or along Great Slave Lake from Yellowknife. Contingency planning and spill prevention/response for fuel and hazardous material transport may become an issue.

Also, the project may prove to be controversial due to the local perception that beryllium is only used by the nuclear industry (beryllium is used in reactor shields and protective shields in nuclear weapons; it is also used in computer wiring, "high tech" steel alloys and other communications and biomedical research purposes).

STATUS:

A DOE review of the Thor Lake Project Description was completed in November, 1988. The review identified information deficiences regarding the potential effects of airborne transport of beryllium and/or rare earths dust, treatability of uranium in Thor Lake tailings, operational plans for management of tailings, tailings dam design criteria and long-term maintenance requirements, long-term stabilization of tailings, objectives and rationale for environmental monitoring, and toxicity of soluble beryllium to northern aquatic organisms.

In light of these information deficiencies, DOE has recommended to DIAND that an Initial Environmental Evaluation (IEE) be prepared. Guidelines for preparation of an IEE were issued to the proponent in 1985; to date, however, Highwood Resources-Hecla Mining have not responded to DIAND's request.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review comments regarding the Project Description and the DOE recommendation for preparation of an IEE will be provided to DIAND via the Regional Environmental Review Committee. Once submitted, EP-NWT District Office will coordinate the DOE review of the IEE.

Prepared by: Warren Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013
Originated: January 21, 1986
Updated: November 15, 1988

Lead: EP - NWT
Contact: T. Sackmann
Phone: (403) 873-3456

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-10821 DND Low Level Flights; DND; U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command (SAC)

BACKGROUND:

The Department of National Defence (DND) in conjunction with the U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command, has proposed a series of annual low-level training flights over the next several years. The proposal will involve up to 100 aircraft (B-52's, FB-111's and BIB's) flying at low levels over at least four one-day periods, in each quarter. The proposed route will initiate north of the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, proceed south to the Alberta border into northwestern Saskatchewan, south to the Primrose Lake area and west into CFB, Cold Lake, Alberta.

DOE provided preliminary input to DND at a meeting held in Edmonton in early December, 1985. DND was advised that impacts were likely to be minor if the route avoided key wildlife habitats and communities. Development of a contingency plan for accidents/emergencies and early consultation with GNWT, INAC, the provinces and local communities were also recommended.

The provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, GNWT and INAC were advised of the proposal early in 1986 and have been kept informed since that time. A consultative meeting chaired by DND was held with all government agencies interested in the environmental review in early August. A meeting with government agencies and public interest groups was held in Yellowknife on Dec. 10/86. Environment Canada attended both meetings. Similar meetings with the public were not held in for Alberta and Saskatchewan.

DND requested that SAC complete an Initial Environmental Evaluation for the proposal. Environmental Sciences Ltd. (ESL) completed this work. The IEE was released for review in May, 1987. DOE comments have been provided directly to DND in a coordinated Departmental response on the entire route and through DIAND's Regional Environmental Review Committee (RERC) for NWT portions of the route.

KEY ISSUES:

- Concern over potential noise impacts on wildlife and people (hunters, trappers, fishermen, tourists, etc.).

- Potential conflict with spring and fall bird migration and wilderness values of proposed East Arm National Park (Great Slave Lake).

- DND/SAC failure to consult with provinces and GNWT early in the planning process. Limited opportunity for community/public involvement during review of IEE.

- Contingency planning for emergencies or accidents.

.../2

- Need for follow-up to ensure implementation of appropriate mitigation during actual exercises.

- General opposition by some members of the public to military exercises in the NWT and western Canada.

STATUS:

DOE has provided comments on the Draft IEE and Final IEE. The project is on hold pending a decision by the Minister of National Defence.

FUTURE ACTIONS:

Participate in pre-flight wildlife reconnaissance flights (CWS). Review annual report on mitigation when produced.

Continue to liaise with other review agencies such as DIAND, Alberta Environment, Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Prepared by: W. Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013
Originated: June 12, 1986
Revised: 10 October, 1986
Revised: 28 November, 1986
Revised: 02 January, 1987
Revised: 17 July, 1987
Revised: 22 October, 1987
Revised: 08 August, 1988
Revised: 23 February, 1989 (no change)

Lead: EP
Contact: W. Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-10584; North Warning System; DIAND; DND

BACKGROUND:

In cooperation with the U.S. Air Force, the Department of National Defence (DND) is replacing the outdated Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line with the North Warning System. The North Warning System will include the construction of 11 Long Range Radar (LRR) Sites, 5 Logistic Support Sites (LSS), 36 Short Range Radar (SRR) Sites and a number of Forward Operating Sites. The sites will be constructed across the North, extending from Alaska to Labrador. Tenders for four SRR facilities have been issued.

KEY ISSUES:

Environmental issues are esentially site specific and include sensitive wildlife and wildlife habitat, fisheries resources, fuel storage and handling, contingency planning, handling and storage of hazardous materials, waste materials managment, and abandonment and restoration of LRR and SRR sites.

STATUS:

The IEE is being prepared in three volumes. The first two volumes (dealing with LRR and SRR sites and the SRR training and development sites) have been reviewed by DOE; the Volume 2 review was completed in January, 1988, while the review of Volume 2 and the North Warning System Environmental Protection Plan was completed in November, 1988. The third volume is expected in FY 89/90.

The DOE review of Volume 1 identified deficiencies such as the lack of environmental protection plans, mitigation measures and details regarding abandonment and restoration of LRR sites.

The review of Volume 2 identified the need for more information regarding construction and operation of individual facilities, assessment and documentation wildlife habitat uses and fisheries resources, and deficiencies in abandonment and restoration planning and waste management. The issue of cleanup and disposal of hazardous materials at selected SRR sites (particularly at Resolution Island) has not been addressed.

The Environmental Protection Plan requires more detail regarding spill contingency planning and surveillance and compliance monitoring. The environmental protection guidelines at present are not sufficiently detailed to be used as a field guide by contractors.

Recommendations have been made to the IERC that Volume 2 and the Environmental Protection Plan be revised and submitted for review by a northern environmental review committee (i.e. the Regional Environmental Review Committee).

FUTURE ACTION:

A coordinated review of Volume 3 will be undertaken and comments/advice will be provided to DND and DIAND. DOE will participate in the RERC review of the revised Volume 2 IEE and EPP documents should they be submitted.

Prepared by: K. Rothwell
Phone: (403) 468-8016
Originated: April 29, 1987
Updated: November 15, 1988 (T. Sackmann)

Lead: EP
Contact: T. Sackmann
Phone: (403) 873-3456

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-6330; Urangesellschaft Canada Ltd., Kiggavik (Lone Gull) Uranium Mine

BACKGROUND:

Urangesellschaft has recently revived its Lone Gull uranium mine project in the Keewatin under a new name - "Kiggavik". The project involves open pit mining on two deposits (300,000 tonnes per year) with an average production of 1,600 tonnes per year U_3O_8. The ore grades are estimated at 0.5% on average (max. 1%). Milling and extraction will be done on site. Effluent will be treated in batches and held until it meets standards. Effluent meeting the standards proposed by Urangesellschaft will result in alterations to downstream water bodies. Feasibility studies are planned for 1988 with production slated to begin in 1993.

KEY ISSUES:

Waste management; release of radionuclides and trace metals; acidification of downstream lakes which are poorly buffered; possible need to write off lakes with respect to fish; transportation of supplies, including large quantities of fuel, on winter roads; dredging and construction of a marine terminal; local people are very interested in possible employment but want the environment protected; Tungavik Federation of Nunavut (TFN) has strong concerns over the possiblility of land claims being compromised, and over uranium mining on principle.

STATUS:

DIAND has referred the project to FEARO for a public review by an EAR Panel.

FUTURE ACTION:

Participate in Panel review as appropriate.

Prepared by: G.A. Packman
Phone: (403) 873-3456
Originated: April 12, 1988
Updated: July 21, 1988 (W. Fenton)
Updated: November 15, 1988 (T. Sackmann)

Lead: EP/NWT
Contact: T. Sackmann
Phone: (403) 873-3456

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4441; Bison Diseases, Wood Buffalo National Park and surrounding areas of Alberta and N.W.T.

BACKGROUND:

Bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis exist in a significant percentage of approximately 4,300 head of hybrid Woods-Plains Bison inhabiting Wood Buffalo National Park and adjacent areas.

KEY ISSUES:

The free-roaming hybrid bison in and around Wood Buffalo National Park are infected with the reportable diseases of tuberculosis and brucellosis and, as a result, may spread these diseases to livestock, other wildlife including the endangered wood bison, and man.

Hybrid bison may interbreed with the wood bison of the Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary (MBS) or other free-roaming wood bison herds that may be established in the area, causing genetic contamination of the threatened wood bison.

There is a need for a Panel review to consider options and make recommendations.

STATUS:

- The Task Force Report was distributed in the summer of 1988. This report is available to the public on request from agencies participating on the inter-agency Steering Committee.

- Agriculture Canada's request for referral to FEARO. Minister, DOE, communicated with all affected ministers (Provincial, Territorial & Federal) to advise of his intentions to create a panel and seek feedback on Terms of Reference and proposed panel composition. All agencies have responded favourably.

- A multiagency newsletter is in preparation (third draft under review) by Steering Committee. Distribution will follow the Minister's formal announcement of a Panel.

- The Minister's announcement of the FEARO panel is expected by mid-February, 1989.

FUTURE ACTION:

Prepared by: R.D. Wickstrom/D. Kerfoot
Phone: (204) 983-3113
Originated: August 8, 1988
Updated: November 28, 1988
Updated: January 17, 1989

Lead: CPS
Contact: R.D. Wickstrom/ D. Kerfoot
Phone: (204) 983-3113

PART B

1988 REGISTRATION/ACTIVITY REPORT

TABLE 1

1988 CUMULATIVE PROPOSAL REGISTRATION AND PRESCREENING DATA
Referred to the RSCC for I: Information or D: Decision
T: Total

MONTH	NUMBER OF PROJECTS REGISTERED																	
	NWT			Alberta			Saskatchewan			Manitoba			Month			Year		
	I	D	T	I	D	T	I	D	T	I	D	T	I	D	T	I	D	T
January	0	0	0	1	1	2	5	0	5	2	0	2	8	1	9	8	1	9
February	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	7	0	7	7	3	10	15	4	19
March	0	1	1	2	0	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	3	2	5	18	6	24
April	18	0	18	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	19	0	19	37	6	43
May	20	0	20	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	22	1	23	59	7	66
June	26	0	26	0	0	0	3	0	3	4	0	4	33	0	33	92	7	99
July	24	0	24	2	4	6	0	0	0	1	0	1	27	4	31	119	11	130
August	0	0	0	1	0	1	10	0	10	7	0	7	18	0	18	137	11	148
September	3	0	3	6	0	6	2	0	2	0	0	0	11	0	11	148	11	159
October	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	3	10	0	10	14	0	14	162	11	173
November	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	4	5	0	5	167	11	178
December	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	0	4	171	11	182
TOTALS	91	1	92	16	9	25	26	1	27	38	0	38	171	11	182			

TABLE 2

1988 PROPOSAL REGISTRATION DATA GROUPED BY REFERRING AGENCY

REFERRING AGENCY	NUMBER OF PROJECTS REGISTERED INFORMATION	DECISION	TOTAL
Energy Mines & Resources	0	0	0
Environment - C&P	3	0	3
- Parks (Western Region)	1	3	4
- Parks (Prairie & Northern Region)	0	0	0
- AES	0	0	0
F.E.A.R.O.	0	1	1
Fisheries & Oceans	0	0	0
Inland Waters Directorate	0	0	0
Indian & Northern Affairs - I&IA	10	0	10
- NA	89	1	90
National Defence	0	0	0
Public Works	1	0	1
Regional & Industrial Expansion	30	0	30
Transport - CATA	5	0	5
- NWPA	17	0	17
Atomic Energy Control Board	0	0	0
Central Mortgage & Housing	0	0	0
Canadian National Railway	6	0	6
Government of NWT	0	0	0
Alberta Environment	0	5	5
Saskatchewan Environment	1	0	1
Manitoba Environment	0	0	0
National Research Council	0	0	0
Health & Welfare Canada	1	0	1
COGLA	0	0	0
Agriculture Canada	1	1	2
P.F.R.A.	0	0	0
Western Economic Diversification Office	6	0	6
TOTALS	171	11	182

TABLE 3

1988 PROPOSAL REGISTRATION DATA GROUPED BY LEAD AGENCY

LEAD AGENCY	NUMBER OF REGISTERED PROJECTS TO DATE		
	INFORMATION	DECISION	TOTAL
DFO - Western Region	0	0	0
CWS	0	4	4
AES - Central Region	0	0	0
- Western Region	0	0	0
IWD - Western & Northern Region	0	0	0
PARKS - Prairie and Northern Region	0	0	0
- Western Region	0	1	1
EP - NWT District	91	1	92
- Alberta District	16	4	20
- Saskatchewan District	26	0	26
- Manitoba District	38	0	38
CFS	0	0	0
CORE Secretariat	0	0	0
TOTALS	171	10	181

TABLE 4

1988 REGISTERED PROPOSALS REFERRED FOR RSCC DECISION

MONTH	LEAD	REGISTRATION NUMBER	PROJECT TITLE
JANUARY	CWS	NW-4387-1	Four Mountain Parks Management Plan (Jasper)
	EP	NW-4442	Great Plains Western Waste Management Inc., Alberta (Information only)
FEBRUARY	CWS	NW-4387-2	Four Mountain Parks Management Plan (Yoho)
	CWS	NW-4387-3	Four Mountain Parks Management Plan (Banff)
	EP	NW-4445	Alberta Newsprint Company Ltd. - Whitecourt, Alberta
MARCH		NW-7238	Riverhurst Irrigation Proposal - Saskatchewan
	EP	NW-2694	HWC - Disease Control Centre, Winnipeg (Information only)
	EP/RMC	NW-6330	Urangesellschaft Uranium Mine - Baker Lake, N.W.T.
APRIL	NIL		
MAY	CWS	NW-4441	Bison Disease Control - Wood Buffalo National Park
JUNE	NIL		
JULY	CPS	NW-4448	Georgetown Developments - Resort - Canmore, Alberta
	EP	NW-4449	Caroline Area Gas Development Group (CAGDG), Alberta
	EP	NW-4450	Suncor Resources Group Inc. - Debottlenecking Plant, Fort McMurray, Alberta

TABLE 4 (con't)

1988 REGISTERED PROJECTS REFERRED FOR RSCC DECISION

MONTH	LEAD/SUPPORT	REGISTRATION NUMBER	PROJECT TITLE
JULY (cont'd)		NW-4451	Solv-Ex Corporation Bitumount Commercial Oil Sands Area, Fort McMurray, Alberta
AUGUST		NIL	
SEPTEMBER	EP	NW-11596	Arsenic Trioxide Transfer Facility, Enterprise, N.W.T. (Information only)
OCTOBER	NIL		
NOVEMBER	NIL		
DECEMBER	NIL		

TABLE 5

1988 PROPOSAL STATUS REPORT REVIEW

INACTIVE PROJECTS

STATUS	LOCATION	REGISTRATION NUMBER	PROPOSAL TITLE	LEAD/SUPPORT	LEAD COORDINATOR	DATE LAST PSR ENTRY
	ALTA.	NW-4098-1	Cold Lake Heavy Oil Project	EP/RHOTSC	F. Zaal	30/01/86
		NW-4200	CNR Proposed Double Track - Edmonton to B.C. Border	EP/RTC	F. Zaal	30/01/86
		NW-4388	Military Training Centre - Longview*	EP	F. Zaal	14/01/88
		NW-4428	Peace River Site C	IWD	D. Donald	
		NW-4409	Milk River Dam*	IWD	D. Donald	12/05/88
	SASK.	NW-7068	Dawn Lake Ore Deposit*	EP/RMC	D. Lawson	19/01/89
	MAN.	NIL				
	N.W.T.	NW-10349	Polar Gas - Mackenzie Pipeline Proposal*	EP/RHPC	G. Packman	21/06/88

* Project/Action Status report provided

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:
NW-4388; Military Training Centre, Longview, Alberta; DND

BACKGROUND:

The Department of National Defence (DND) requires lands for operation of a military training centre associated with CFB Calgary. The present facility located on the Sarcee Indian Reserve has become uneconomical to operate due to new lease arrangements proposed by the Sarcee. Consequently, DND has proposed purchase of land for such a facility near Longview. A 1984 proposal suggested the Nelson Ranch as the favoured alternative site. This was rejected due to considerable local opposition. In August, 1986, a revised proposal was submitted suggesting the O-H Ranch as a new preferred site. The proposal was officially referred to the province of Alberta as the first such project to be jointly reviewed under the Canada-Alberta Agreement on Environmental Impact Assessment.

KEY ISSUES:

- Public consultation required before irrevocable decisions are made.
- Compatibility of military land use with wilderness recreation/ agricultural land-uses currently existing in the area.
- Potential impacts on archaeological/historical resources.
- Need to verify predictions made relative to potential impacts on ungulates (wapiti, moose).
- Need for additional details on proposed facilities at the site with specific reference to waste management requirements.
- Potential conflict with moratorium on certain water uses in the Highwood River watershed.
- Transportation route/s require additional review (vehicle type and approval, potential conflict with other users, road upkeep, etc.).
- Influence of winter chinook on fire hazard and potential for soil erosion (vehicle movement).

STATUS:

The IEE has been reviewed by Environment Canada (DOE) and Alberta Environment. DOE comments have been provided to DND outlining the concerns identified above and indicating that the degree of public concern will likely be significant. Provincial comments will not be formally provided until public consultation has been implemented and the Alberta Cabinet has reviewed the proposal. A consensus was reached with DND on implementation of a public consultation program.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review of the revised IEE will take place after the document becomes available, and further advice will be provided to DND as necessary. DND's public consultation plan will be referred to Alberta Environment when received.

Prepared by: W. Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013
Originated: October 10, 1986
Updated: January 16, 1987

Lead: EP
Contact: Fred Zaal, ADO
Phone: (403) 468-8004

FROM RSCC MINUTES, January 14, 1988: The project is still inactive, however the need for such a facility still exists. DND needs to cooperatively plan with the province to address this requirement. The O-H Ranch was recently sold to local (private) interests.

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4409; Milk River Dam; Alberta; Agriculture Canada (PFRA)

BACKGROUND:

Construction of a dam on the Milk River has been proposed by Alberta Environment. The dam would be 41.5 metres high, 620 metres long and the forebay would encompass 1,853 hectares. The dam would be used as a storage reservoir for irrigation purposes, and would secure Canada's rightful share of water from the Milk River basin. Construction of this $30 million dam would enable irrigation of an additional 6,000 hectares, and provide a guaranteed water source for domestic and livestock use. The proposed dam site is 4 km downstream from the confluence of the North Milk and Milk Rivers, and about 14 km west of the town of Milk River. The environmentally important and sensitive Milk River Canyon is located 110 km downstream from the reservoir site.

KEY ISSUES:

Water quality and accurate measurements of water quantity will be key issues under the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909, and the 1921 order of the International Joint Commission. The Milk River Valley is also the only location in Canada where many plant, insect, reptile and fish species specifically adapted to an arid ecosystem are known to occur. Impact of the proposed dam on rare or threatened species and the riparian plant community in the Milk River Canyon could also be issues.

STATUS:

Alberta Environment has completed several reports related to this project and is planning additional studies on water quality, biological resources and archaeological sites. Environment Canada reviewed nine reports related to this project and provided comments to Alberta Environment on August 27, 1987.

May 12, 1988 RSCC Meeting: IWD advises that project is INACTIVE.

FUTURE ACTION:

IWD will continue to assess quality and quantity of water in the Milk River at the eastern boundary crossing, and the RSCC will review EIA reports as required.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: January 22, 1986
Updated: July 05, 1986
Updated: November 24, 1986
Updated: January 29, 1987
Updated: January 20, 1988
Updated: May 12, 1988

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7068; Dawn Lake Ore Deposit; Saskatchewan Mining Development Corporation; Saskatchewan

BACKGROUND:

The ore bodies contain 18.6 million kilograms of uranium. To date, activity has been limited to geological exploration, as more favourable ore bodies are either in production (Key Lake) or are being considered for development (Cigar Lake).

KEY ISSUES:

Potential environmental impacts, including release of radioactive elements and heavy metals, terrain disturbances and disruption of fish and wildlife resources.

STATUS:

The last activity on this project was in May, 1984, when DOE/DFO reviewed baseline environmental data collected by the proponent. The review concentrated on data deficiencies and on making recommendations to Saskatchewan Environment for future work plans.

FUTURE ACTION:

Review of continued baseline data collection. An EIS review is not imminent, as development is unlikely to proceed in the near future.

April 28, 1987: EP, Saskatchewan advises that project is INACTIVE.

January 19, 1989: EP, Saskatchewan advised that the site is being decommissioned.

Prepared by: John Witteman/Dennis Lawson
Originated: October 1, 1985
Updated: December 19, 1985
Updated: February 12, 1986
Updated: January 16, 1987
Updated: April 28, 1987
Updated: January 19, 1989 (D. Lawson)

Lead: EP
Contact: D. Lawson
Phone: (306) 780-6462

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-10349 Polar Gas; Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Proposal; DIAND/NEB; Polar Gas Ltd.

BACKGROUND:

Polar Gas Ltd. filed an application in June 1984 with the National Energy Board (NEB) and DIAND to construct and operate a large-diameter natural gas pipeline along the Mackenzie Valley from the Mackenzie Delta to Edson, Alberta. Preliminary screening of the application for deficiencies and potential environmental concerns was initiated at that time by DIAND and the NEB. DIAND completed its preliminary screening in August 1985 and recommended that the application not be referred to FEARO for a formal Panel review. This suggestion was dependent upon further consultation with the GNWT to confirm their position on significance of impact and referral/non-referral to FEARO. The recommendation was also dependent upon the assumption that some form of community-based review would be initiated and that Polar Gas would address specific deficiencies. The NEB review is on hold pending confirmation by Polar Gas of a gas supplier and markets to which the product would be transported.

KEY ISSUES:

- GNWT position on significance of input, referral/non-referral to FEARO and form of community based review.
- need for additional details on site specific concerns (eg. potential for terrain disturbance)
- need for clearer identification of linkages of the proposal with gas field development and gas processing facilities.

STATUS:

The National Energy Board received information from Polar Gas in April and additional information in October, 1985 which was intended to address Project financing, supplies of gas (e.g. Esso, Gulf, Shell) and potential markets in the United States. However, the company has yet to confirm an actual source of gas (i.e. written agreement with a producer) or an actual market for the gas (i.e. written agreement with a distributor). Until Polar Gas can do this, the NEB is unlikely to initiate a formal review.
The GNWT agrees with DIAND that the project not be referred to FEARO for a Panel review. GNWT, nevertheless, wishes to pursue a community-based formal review process. The timing and format for this review is still unresolved. Polar Gas has terminated its community consultation program in the Mackenzie Valley. Further work is not anticipated until economic conditions improve.

FUTURE ACTION:

Timing of future reviews is unclear at this time. DOE, CFS and DFO participation in further IERC reviews, community hearings and/or NEB hearings will take place if and when such actions are required.

PROJECT INACTIVE: June 23, 1987

Prepared by: Warren Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013
Originated: January 21, 1986
Updated: November 10, 1986
Updated: November 14, 1987 (No change in project status)
Updated: June 21, 1988 (no change in project status)

Lead: EPS - NWT
Contact: Brian Wilson
Phone: (403) 873-3456

TABLE 6

1988 REGIONAL MINING COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SHEET

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	ACTION REQUIRED	DATE INITIATED	REVIEWERS	COMPLETED est.	COMPLETED actual	COMMENTS	OTHER
NW-10418 Highwood Resources Ltd. - Thor Lake Beryllium Proposal, N.W.T.	Familiarization with proposal and potential environmental effects of uncommon minerals involved.	Nov. 23/84	EP/RMC		N/A		Ongoing
NW-6330 Urangesellschaft Uranium Mine - Baker Lake, N.W.T.							
NW-917 Midwest Project Saskatchewan	Review draft EIS	June 13/88	RMC	July 8/88	July 14/88	Consolidated review comments - forwarded to EP, Regina	

TABLE 7

1988 REGIONAL DREDGING COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SHEET

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	ACTION REQUIRED	DATE INITIATED	REVIEWERS	COMPLETED est.	COMPLETED actual	COMMENTS	OTHER
NW-4436 - PWC Class Assessment - Maintenance dredging Program, W&N Region	Oversee Consultant's report on screening process and apply to PWC dredging; sit on steering committee	Apr. 27/88	W. Fenton P.N. Boothroyd			Ongoing	
	Review report once it becomes available	Oct. 29/87	Members			Ongoing	

TABLE 8

1988 REGIONAL HYDROCARBON COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SHEET

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	ACTION REQUIRED	DATE INITIATED	REVIEWERS	COMPLETED est.	COMPLETED actual	COMMENTS	OTHER

No Committee Activity in 1988.

TABLE 9

1988 REGIONAL HYDROPOWER COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SHEET

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	ACTION REQUIRED	DATE INITIATED	REVIEWERS	COMPLETION DATE est	COMPLETION DATE actual	COMMENTS OTHER

No Committee activity in 1988.

TABLE 10

1988 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SHEET

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	ACTION REQUIRED	DATE INITIATED	REVIEWERS	COMPLETED est.	COMPLETED actual	COMMENTS	OTHER
Transport Canada Computerized Environmental Impact Screening System	Organize workshop to review the screening system for completeness and accuracy (during demonstration phase)	Oct. 19/88	R. Kent (EP) W. Fenton (EP) F. Zaal (EP) L. Dickson (CWS) N. Parker (AES) S. Zoltai (CFS)	Workshop - 24/11/88		Final draft document describing knowledge base still to be reviewed, when received Field testing of the system is currently underway	

TABLE 11

1988 REGIONAL TAR SANDS AND HEAVY OILS COMMITTEE

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	ACTION REQUIRED	DATE INITIATED	REVIEWERS	COMPLETED est.	COMPLETED actual	OTHER
NW-4450 - Suncor Debottlenecking Project	Suncor EIS Document reviewed	Aug. 31/88	V. Marwaha W. Hume F. Zaal		Sept. 8/88	

TABLE 12

1988 COMMITTEES - AD HOC

PROJECT TITLE/ REGISTRATION NUMBER	ACTION REQUIRED	DATE INITIATED	REVIEWERS	COMPLETION DATE est	COMPLETION DATE actual	OTHER
NW-2370 Shoal Lake Development (Panel Project)	- Support Lead and Project Strategy Team (Dr. Macpherson, N. Tywoniuk, H. Gavin.)	May 14/81	Shoal Lake Committee	Aug./85	Aug./85 Aug./85	Panel actions have been on "hold" since 1985. Further delays will require re-drafting of DOE submission if the proponent reactivates the project.

TABLE 13

1988 RSCC SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

PROJECT NAME	ACTION REQUIRED	ACTION BY/ SUPPORT	COMPLETION DATE est.	COMPLETION DATE actual	OTHER
1. RSCC/EARP Information Program	Produce RSCC information package.	EP Lead/ Chairman		ongoing	Third draft prepared. Further work pending review of National Management Framework, RSCC Terms of Reference and potential implications of reforms to EARP.

TABLE 14

PROPOSALS CLOSED FOR RSCC PURPOSES IN 1988

Projects Closed from RSCC Agenda and Further Review		
1)	NW-4438	Champion Forest Products (Alta.) Ltd. - EP*
2)	NW-4387	Four Mountain Parks Management Plan (Kootenay) - CWS*
3)	NW-4201	General American Gas Plant - Ghost River, Alberta - EP*
4)	NW-4435	MPLC Magnesium Processing Plant - High River, Alberta - EP*
5)	NW-4421	Rimrock Inn Expansion - Banff National Park, Alberta - PARKS
6)	NW-2216	Patterson Dam, Manitoba - IWD
7)	NW-2437	Manitoba Hydro Proposal - Raising Minimum Water Levels on Cross Lake - DFO
8)	NW-4387-2	Four Mountain Parks Management Plan (Yoho) - CWS
9)	NW-4387-3	Four Mountain Parks Management Plan (Banff) - CWS
10)	NW-4387-1	Four Mountain Parks Management Plan (Jasper) - CWS*
11)	NW-4425	Fibreco Export Inc. - pulpmill - Taylor, B.C. - EP
12)	NW-6823	Beaufort Sea/Mackenzie Delta Region Hydrocarbon Production and Transportation - EP*
13)	NW-11183	Neptune Resources Corp. - Colomac Project - N.W.T. - EP*
14)	NW-10190	Bent Horn Project - N.W.T. - EP*
15)	NW-7210	Luck Lake Project - Saskatchewan - IWD*
16)	NW-7156-1	Rafferty and Alameda Dams - Saskatchewan - IWD*

* Project Action/Status Report attached

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4438 - Champion Forest Products (Alta.) Limited; Pulpmill expansion

BACKGROUND:

Champion Forest Products (Alberta) Limited has proposed the modernization and expansion of the Hinton Bleached Kraft Pulp Mill to double existing capacity from 555 AD tonnes/day to 1095 tonnes/day.

Environment Canada participation in the review of the proposal involved the response by the proponent of the deficiency statement prepared within the Alberta Environmental Assessment process.

KEY ISSUES:

Environment Canada has been requested to participate in the review of an EIA prepared within the Alberta Environmental Assessment process. The project has been referred to DOE under the Canada/Alberta Sub-Agreement on EIA.

Federal interests in the project include:

a) Water Quality - The Pulp and Paper Effluent Regulations under the Fisheries Act apply. An opportunity exists to promote installation of "best available treatment technology" for parameters such as BOD, TSS, toxicity, etc.

b) Air Quality - The facility will be subject to the Clean Air Act - Wood Pulping Industry National Emission Guidelines for New Stationary Sources. There is an opportunity to promote best available technology for parameters such as particulates, SO_2 and odour.

c) Dioxins - The process used to produce bleached kraft pulp utilizes chlorine and chlorine dioxide CLO_2 as bleaching agents. Production of dioxin has been associated with this process. Dioxins are among the most toxic organic compounds produced by man. The significance of dioxins in wastes or products from pulpmills is under close evaluation in Canada and the U.S. Any new bleached kraft mill can be expected to be subjected to close scrutiny.

d) Fisheries - Commericial, recreational and domestic fisheries exist along the waterway. Species of interest include whitefish, walleye, goldeye, etc. Concerns about the potential for tainting could be raised.

e) Forest Management - Interest is expected from the public in including the woods operations/forest management agreements in the EIS. Federal interest in this should be peripheral as long as federal funding is not involved.

STATUS:

Federal review comments transmitted to ADOE February 17, 1988.

Prepared by: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: March 17, 1988
PROJECT CLOSED: May 12, 1988

Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4387; Four Mountain Parks - Kootenay National Park Management Plan Review; Parks

BACKGROUND:

EC/Parks has completed a management plan for Kootenay National Park, one of the four national parks in the Rocky Mountains known collectively as the Four Mountain Parks. In addition to preparing the management plan itself, the environmental and socio-economic impacts associated with implementation of the plan were analyzed and reported on in a document entitled "Socio-economic and Environmental Impact Analysis of the Kootenay National Park Management Plan".

EC/Parks requested the RSCC to review and comment on the portion of their impact analysis dealing with environmental aspects.

KEY ISSUES:

Management policies and activities proposed may have implications to preservation and management of wildlife habitat and wildlife populations, pollution control and waste management.

STATUS:

The review was completed and comments forwarded to EC/Parks.

FUTURE ACTION:

No further involvement of the RSCC is anticipated.

Prepared by: P.N. Boothroyd
Phone: (204) 983-5261
Originated: January 13, 1988

Lead: CWS
Contact: P.N. Boothroyd
Phone: (204) 983-5261

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4201; General American Oils Ltd., Proposed Ghost River Sour Gas Project, Alberta; Indian Affairs

BACKGROUND:

General American Oils Ltd., a subsidiary of Phillips Petroleum Company, is proposing to construct a sour gas processing plant (507 10^3 m^3/d; 3.84 t/d of SO_2 emitted) on the Stoney Indian Reserve near Morley (NE-2-26-7 W5M). The proposed location is an old PanCanadian gas plant site. The project is a reactivation of an earlier (1981) proposal by another subsidiary of Phillips.

KEY ISSUES:

Air quality, sulphur recovery, conflict with recreational activities, visual impact, development on Indian land, site contamination by previous operations.

STATUS:

Project no longer being actively considered.

FUTURE ACTION:

Continue to monitor PanCanadian decommissioning.

Prepared by: F.J. Schulte, Alberta Environment
Phone: (403) 427-6209
Originated: September 15, 1986
Updated: July 24, 1987
Updated: March 14, 1988 (F. Zaal)
PROJECT CLOSED: January 14, 1988

Lead: EP
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4435 - Magnesium Processing Plant; High River; Alberta; The Magnesium Company of Canada Ltd.

BACKGROUND:

This project involves the construction of a magnesium production facility between High River and Aldersyde, off Highway 2A, south of the City of Calgary.

Magnesium ore for the plant will come from Baymag Mines Limited in the Mount Brussiloff area near Radium, B.C.

KEY ISSUES:

Key issues of concern are air qualtiy and water quality. The increased use of the Parkway by 3 - 4.5 thousand truckloads of ore being hauled from the mine to the production facility and consequent conflict regarding public safety visitor enjoyment of park facilities and ungulate collisions.

STATUS:

Licensing is underway. Construction was initiated in March, 1988.

FUTURE ACTION:

Monitor plant construction/operations as/if required.

Prepared by: F. Zaal, Alberta District Office
Phone: (403) 468-8004
Originated: March 17, 1988
PROJECT CLOSED: January 14, 1988

Lead: EP
Contact: F. Zaal
Phone: (403) 468-8004

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-4387-1; Four Mountain Parks - Jasper National Park Management Plan Review; Parks

BACKGROUND:

EC/Parks has completed a management plan for Jasper National Park, one of the four national parks in the Rocky Mountains known collectively as the Four Mountain Parks. In addition to preparing the management plan itself, the environmental and socio-economic impacts associated with implementation of the plan were analyzed and reported on in a document entitled "Socio-economic and Environmental Impact Analysis of the Jasper National Park Management Plan".

EC/Parks requested the RSCC to review and comment on the portion of their impact analysis dealing with environmental aspects.

KEY ISSUES:

Management policies and activities proposed may have implications to preservation and management of wildlife habitat and wildlife populations, pollution control and waste management.

STATUS:

The review was completed and comments forwarded to EC/Parks.

FUTURE ACTION:

No further involvement of the RSCC is anticipated.

Prepared by: P.N. Boothroyd
Phone: (204) 983-5261

Lead: CWS
Contact: P.N. Boothroyd

PROJECT CLOSED: May 12, 1988

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-6823; Beaufort Sea/Mackenzie Delta Region Hydrocarbon Production and Transportation; DIAND; Northwest Territories and Yukon

BACKGROUND:

Proposal is for oil and gas development in the Beaufort Sea/Mackenzie Delta Region, and for transportation to southern markets using pipelines or ice-breaking tankers. Project referred to FEARO by DIAND, July, 1980. On behalf of more than 40 companies holding exploration permits in the region, three companies, Dome Petroleum Ltd., Esso Resources Canada Ltd., and Gulf Canada Resources Inc., prepared and submitted a detailed EIS to the Panel November, 1982. Additional information was submitted June, 1983. Public hearings were held (September 14, to December 16, 1983); the Panel report was released July 1984, proposing conditional approval. DOE participated extensively in the hearings, to question the proponents, table environmental concerns, and answer questions. DOE Project Team analyzed Panel report and recommendations, and gave rough cost estimates for implementing the recommendations that were beyond present A-Base. These were reviewed at the March, 1984, SMC meeting. Services were asked to implement Panel recommendations by including them in operational and work plans. DOE reviewed its NOGAP proposals and focussed these on the Panel recommendations. DOE suggested a federal response be made to the Panel report.

KEY ISSUES:

Potential environmental impacts both on and offshore, and on native life-styles resulting from petroleum development in Beaufort Sea/Mackenzie Delta Region. Ability of governments to properly respond to and regulate development, in terms of basic prior research needed on which to base decisions, policy, government infrastructure and monitoring.

STATUS:

The DOE Project Team has completed, printed and distributed its final report on the Panel recommendations; the Services are implementing some recommendations for which they have specific responsibilities.

FUTURE ACTION:

Monitor industry progess in Beaufort development. Monitor the implementation of recommendations for which DOE is responsible (some cannot be actioned until there is an actual project).

Prepared by: K.B. Switzer
Phone: (403) 468-8066
Originated: December 17, 1985
Revised: February 5, 1986
Updated: January 7, 1988 (WF)
PROJECT CLOSED: June 21, 1988

Lead: EP
Contact: W. Fenton
Phone: (403) 468-8013
and: G. Packman
(403) 873-3456

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-11183; Neptune Resources Corp. - Colomac Gold Mine Project

BACKGROUND:

Neptune Resources has applied for a Water Licence for its Colomac Lake pilot project. The company plans to use open pit mining to obtain low grade ore and extract the gold using cyanide in a vat leaching process. Neptune plans to start the pilot project in the summer of 1987 and run it until the spring of 1988. If successful, Neptune will prepare an IEE for the full-scale operation and apply for a Water Licence to enable it to begin operations in 1989.

The ore will be placed in vats lined with heavy gauge polyethylene and leached with cyanide over a period of months. When leaching is complete, the cyanide solution will be withdrawn, the gold recovered, and the effluent will be treated in the pilot project using the SO_2 air process. In the full-scale operation the effluent will be treated using a patented "Sci-Tech" process. Groundwater around the vat will be monitored to ensure that any leaks are detected before there is serious environmental damage.

KEY ISSUES:

Maintenance of aquatic environmental quality, effluent treatment, reclamation and abandonment, protection of critical fish habitat (spawning/rearing areas, migration routes), eventual large-scale development, winter or all season road access to newly opened-up area.

STATUS:

An NWT Water Board public hearing was held on April 28, 1987, and a draft Water Licence for the pilot project has been prepared. EP/NWT is involved in designing programs to ensure that there will be an adequate information base on which to assess the impacts of the full-scale operation.

FUTURE ACTION:

EP will provide input to data requirements for the IEE and will co-ordinate review of the IEE. EP will also track compliance during the pilot project and intervene at the next Water Board Public Hearing.

Prepared by: G.A. Packman
Phone: (403) 873-3456
Originated: June 19, 1987
PROJECT CLOSED: June 21, 1988

Lead: EP/NWT
Contact: G.A. Packman
Phone: (403) 873-3456

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-10190 Bent Horn Project; Panarctic

BACKGROUND:

Panarctic Oils Ltd. has developed an oil well (Bent Horn A-02) and associated facilities on Cameron Island. The site is subject to a Land Use Permit administered by DIAND, pending eventual granting of a lease. Panarctic has met L.U.P. conditions including provision of an Environmental Protection Plan of which a second draft review is being finalized. In late August, 1986, the "M.V. Arctic", accompanied by a CCG icebreaker, loaded 100,000 bbl. of light crude oil. This cargo was transfered to the "M.V. Imperial Bedford" off Rea Point and taken safely to Montreal. DOE provided advice regarding shipping conditions to CCG via EACAMT.

In 1985, the "M.V. Arctic" was converted to an OBO (oil, bulk ore carrier) and had its sides strengthened. In 1986, the old bow was removed and a new prebuilt one added to upgrade the ship from an Arctic Class 2 to an Arctic Class 3 vessel. The AWPPA requires Class 3 standards for the sea route to Bent Horn through Safety Control Zone 1. The ship can now transit this zone in season unescorted (previously the CCG would amend the AWPPA regulations to allow the "M.V. Arctic" to enter the zone with icebreaker assistance).

KEY ISSUES:

There were concerns over the oil storage conditions at Bent Horn but these have been resolved to satisfaction of DIAND land-use inspectors. Concern that the ship did not meet standards set out in the AWPPA regulations disappeared when the ship was upgraded to Arctic Class 3 standards. Concern remains that a marine spill of Bent Horn oil could be difficult to clean up because of its high paraffin content. COGLA has apparently approved Panarctic's proposed use of bladders for temporary storage of crude. EP/NWT has addressed concerns to DIAND on this proposal and recommended that the application be rejected on the basis that the proposed method of storage is not in accordance with the National Fire Code of Canada (1985), a standard which has been adopted in the NWT.

STATUS:

Project is continuing; shipments on an annual basis will continue; and additional storage facilities (bladders) are being proposed for construction within the existing bermed containment area. Low oil prices may jeopardize these plans.

FUTURE ACTIONS:

Continue to monitor the Bent Horn facility construction and conditions of shipment, particularly into 1987, when unassisted passage may be attempted after "M.V. Arctic" achieves Class 3 standard.

Prepared by: K.B. Switzer
Phone: (403) 468-8066
Originated: July 07, 1985
Revised: March 04, 1986
Updated: July 10, 1986
Updated: July 27, 1987 (S. Howarth)
PROJECT CLOSED: June 21, 1988

Lead: EP/NWT
Contact: S. Howarth
Phone: (403) 873-3456

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7210; Luck Lake Irrigation Proposal; Saskatchewan Power Corporation, Agriculture Canada

BACKGROUND:

In October 1986, Agriculture Canada signed a 7-year $100 million irrigation development program agreement with the Saskatchewan Water Corporation. Canada will provide $50 million toward the "Canada-Saskatchewn Subsidary Agreement on Irrigation Based Economic Development."

Under the Agreement, projects are to be reviewed according to both the Federal EARP and "The Environmental Assessment Act" (Saskatchewan), and the projects are to be coordinated with federal and provincial departments implementing wetlands development and recreation programs.

As part of the Agreement, the Luck Lake irrigation project will be implemented in the near future. This $19 million project is situated north of Lake Diefenbaker; will be a pump and pipe distribution system; and when completed will irrigate 6,700 acres. Environmental impacts of the project have been judged to be insignificant by Saskatchewan Water Corporation, and therefore an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

There is considerable potential to enhance waterfowl production, and Ducks Unlimited will develop at least one marsh (Luck Lake) that will be associated with this project.

KEY ISSUES:

Soil salanization throughout the project boundaries; return flows to Lake Diefenbaker; disruption of wildlife habitat.

STATUS:

Saskatchewan Water and Agriculture Canada will proceed with the Luck Lake Project and construction should begin in 1988.

FUTURE ACTION:

DOE will monitor this project and provide advice as required. CWS should examine the project for its potential for waterfowl habitat development, and potential impact on rare and endangered species (eg. burrowing owl).

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: November 25, 1986
Updated: January 29, 1987
Updated: November 20, 1987
PROJECT CLOSED: June 21, 1988

Lead: IWD
Contact: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PROJECT ACTION/STATUS

TOPIC:

NW-7156-1; Rafferty and Alameda Dams; Souris Basin Development Authority; Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety

BACKGROUND:

Plans have been announced by the Saskatchewan Government for the construction of a 300 MW thermal generating station at Shand, 10 kilometers southeast of Estevan, and the Rafferty Dam located 10 kilometers northwest of Estevan on the Souris River. The Alameda Dam will be constructed on the Moose Mountain Creek, 55 kilometers northeast of Estevan. Both dams will be used for flood protection, recreation, and irrigation. The Rafferty Dam will also provide the cooling water for the 300 MW power plant.

American funding ($41,100,00 US) has been secured for this project to aleviate flood damage in North Dakota.

KEY ISSUES:

The Souris River is an international river; federal obligations exist pursuant to the International River Improvements Act, the Boundary Waters Treaty, the Navigable Waters Protection Act, and the Fisheries Act. The federal issues of prime interest are water quality, waterfowl mitigation and public safety.

STATUS:

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Rafferty and Alameda dams was completed in 1987 and was reviewed by the Government of Canada. Comments were forwarded to Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety. Public submissions on the project were presented before a Board of Inquiry who will also forward their recommendations to the Government of Saskatchewan.

FUTURE ACTION:

Environment Canada, Transport Canada and the International Joint Commission will pursue their interests in this project as it proceeds.

Prepared by: D.B. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544
Originated: September 1985 (J. Harrison, EP)
Updated: December 19, 1985
Updated: February 14, 1986
Updated: July 09, 1986
Updated: November 05, 1986
Updated: January 29, 1987
Updated: November 20, 1987
PROJECT CLOSED: June 21, 1988

Lead: IWD
Contact: D. Donald
Phone: (306) 780-6544

PART C

RSCC AND REGIONAL COMMITTEES

1988 MEMBERSHIP

REGIONAL SCREENING AND COORDINATING COMMITTEE
WESTERN AND NORTHERN REGION

Members		Service	Location
Dr. N. Tywoniuk, Chairman		CORE	Edmonton
Dr. R. McV.Clarke		DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. W.D. Hume	(Western Region)	AES	Edmonton
Mr. D.G. Shaefer	(Central Region)	AES	Winnipeg
Mr. S. Zoltai		CFS	Edmonton
Dr. P. Addison - Alternate		CFS	Edmonton
Mr. D. Bjonback		IWD	Regina
Mr. D. Gregor - Alternate		IWD	Regina
Mr. P. Boothroyd		CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. W. Fenton		EP	Edmonton
Mr. D. Kerfoot (Prairie & Northern Region)		PARKS	Winnipeg
Mr. R.D. Wickstrom - Alternate		PARKS	Winnipeg
Dr. B. Leeson	(Western Region)	PARKS	Calgary

Secretariat

Ms. D. Lorieau	EP	Edmonton

RSCC REGIONAL SUB-COMMITTEES
WESTERN AND NORTHERN REGION

1. Regional Mining Sub-Committee

Members	Service	Location
Mr. W. Fenton, A/Co-Chairman	EP (N 60°)	Edmonton
Mr. R.F. Hopkinson, Co-Chairman	*AES (N&S 60°)(E 110°)	Regina
Mr. P. Kociuba	*AES (N&S 60°)(W 110°)	Edmonton
Mr. P. Boothroyd	CWS (N&S 60°)	Winnipeg
Mr. B. Olding	IWD (N 60°)	Yellowknife
Mr. D. Donald	IWD (S 60°)	Regina
Mr. D. Bjonback/Alternate	IWD (S 60°)	Regina
Mr. B. Fallis	DFO (N&S 60°)	Winnipeg

* AES Western/Central Regional division essentially 110° longitude; RMC Co-Chairman S of 60° reviews for AES, N & S of 60° (E of 100°)

2. Regional Dredging Sub-Committee

Members

Mr. P.N. Boothroyd, Chairman	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. J.N. Stein	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. W. Fenton	EP	Edmonton
Mr. J. Harrison	EP (Sask. Projects)	Regina
Mr. D. Donald	IWD	Regina

3. Regional Transportation Sub-Committee

Members

Mr. S. Zoltai, Chairman	CFS	Edmonton
Mr. P. Boothroyd	CWS	Winnipeg
Ms. A.M. Ault Brakel - Alternate	EP	Edmonton
Mr. J. Harrison - Alternate	EP (Sask. Projects)	Regina
Mr. M.D. Drews - Alternate	AES	Edmonton
Mr. B. Atkinson - Alternate	AES (Man. Projects)	Winnipeg
Mr. G.A. McKinnon	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Donald	IWD	Regina

4. Regional Hydropower Sub-Committee

Members	Service	Location
Mr. D. Donald, Chairman	IWD	Regina
Mr. Bill Bond	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. P. Boothroyd	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. W. Fenton	EP	Edmonton
Mr. J. Harrison	EP (Sask. Projects)	Regina
Mr. M.D. Drews	AES	Edmonton
Mr. R. Hopkinson	AES	Regina
Mr. B. Yeo	PARKS	Calgary

5. Regional Hydrocarbon Sub-Committee

Members

Mr. P. Boothroyd, Chairman	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. M. Lawrence	DFO	Winnipeg
Dr. S. Zoltai	CFS	Edmonton
Mr. D. Woo	EP	Edmonton
Mr. M.N. Parker	AES	Edmonton
Mr. B. Atkinson	AES	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Donald	IWD	Regina

6. Regional Tar Sands and Heavy Oils Sub-Committee

Members

Mr. V. Marwaha, Chairman	CORE	Edmonton
Mr. J. Witteman	EP	Regina
Mr. P. Boothroyd	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. R.F. Hopkinson	AES	Regina
Mr. B. Thomson	AES	Edmonton
Mr. W.D. Hume (Alternate)	AES	Edmonton
Mr. B. Bond	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. D. Donald	IWD	Regina

7. Ad Hoc Committee - Shoal Lake

Members

Mr. B. Briscoe	EP	Winnipeg
Mr. P. Boothroyd	CWS	Winnipeg
Mr. K. Chang-Kue	DFO	Winnipeg
Mr. B. Atkinson	AES	Winnipeg
Dr. K. Thomson	IWD	Regina
Mr. S. Zoltai	CFS	Edmonton